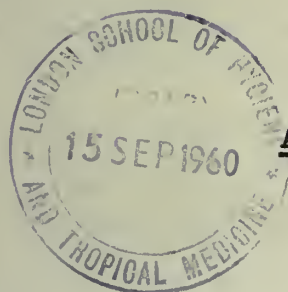


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ANNUAL REPORT

On the Health of

HODDESDON URBAN DISTRICT

For the Year 1959

EAST HERTFORDSHIRE COMBINED DISTRICTS
REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1959
H O D D E S D O N U R B A N D I S T R I C T

P R E F A C E

To the Chairman and Members of the
Public Health Committee

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Dunton and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report upon the Health of the Urban District of Hoddesdon for the year ending 31st December, 1959. This report is prepared in accordance with directions contained in Ministry of Health Circular 1/60 dated 8th January 1960.

Hoddesdon, an Urban District situated some 20 miles from London on the main road (A.10) to Cambridge, is also well served by rail, being on the main railway line from Liverpool Street to Cambridge. This line will be electrified in the near future. Although surrounded by pleasant countryside, Hoddesdon has many light industries and is a thriving and growing community. In 1949 its population was 13,630; in 1959 it was 16,770 this being an increase of 330 over that of 1958.

The total number of births in 1959 was 301, the total number of deaths was 159, and there were no maternal deaths during the year.

The health of the District has been good. Apart from 347 cases of measles, which reflected the biennial epidemic affecting the whole Kingdom, there is little to report in the sphere of notifiable diseases.

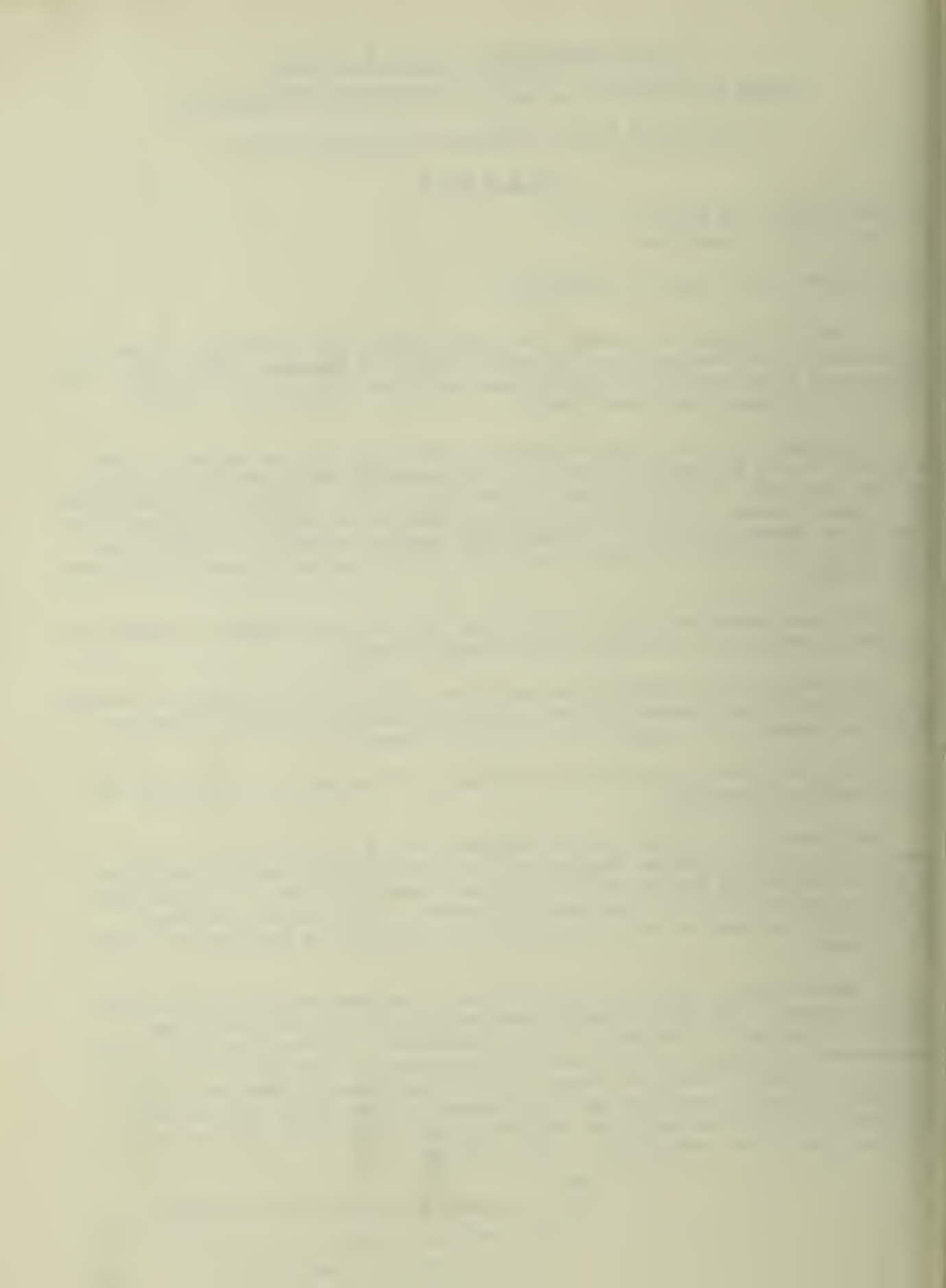
During the year 205 new houses were built, 73 by the local authority and 132 by private enterprise.

The Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector, Mr. A.C. Gittins, left the service of the authority in November 1959 and subsequently took up the appointment of Chief Public Health Inspector to the Borough of Ruthin in North Wales. I wish him every success in his new appointment. I wish also to welcome Mr. W. Scott who came to Hoddesdon from Norton-Radstock in Somerset to succeed Mr. Gittins.

I should like to record my appreciation of the constant and stimulating interest shown by the Public Health Committee and also by members of the Council in the work of the Public Health Department. I must also thank other departmental colleagues for the cordial co-operation I have always received from them. Finally, but by no means least in importance, I wish to thank the Chief Public Health Inspector and other members of the Public Health Staff for their continued and unfailing support during the year and for the help I have received in the compilation of this report.

I am,
Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Dunton and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,
Gordon M. Frizelle



PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT - STAFF

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Gordon M. Frizelle, T.D., M.D., D.P.H.

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(East Herts. Combined Districts)

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High Street,
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Office:-

Hoddesdon 3061

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Deputy (Part-Time) Medical Officer of Health

Peter de Bec Turtle, V.R.D., M.A., B.M., B.Ch., D.P.H.,
Haileybury and Imperial Service College

Telephone: Hoddesdon 2040

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

Chief Public Health Inspector (Also Housing Manager) W.N. DAVID

Certificate of the R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B.

Certificate for Inspector of Meat and Other Foods

Smoke Inspector's Certificate

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector (Also Deputy
Housing Manager)

A.C. GITTENS

Certificate of the R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B.

Certificate for Inspector of Meat and Other Foods

Diploma of The Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene

Certificate of the Institute of Housing in Housing Management

Additional Public Health Inspector

Certificate of P.H.I.E.B.

Certificate for Inspector of Meat and Other Foods

Student Public Health Inspector

R.F. COLDHAM

Public Health Department

Council Offices

High Street

Hoddesdon, Herts

Telephone:

Hoddesdon 3061

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

The Chairman of the Public Health Committee for the Session 1959/60 was Councillor Dr. F.J.L. Lang, M.B.E., The Vice-Chairman was Councillor Mr. F.E. Rymill.

Also on the Committee were Councillors, A. Godfrey, F. Hewitt, H.G. Clark, P.C. Madsen, K.J.W. Spargo, C.G. Tilling and F. Wilkinson.

GENERAL STATISTICS 1959

(TABLE 1)

(Figures for 1958 are shown in brackets)

POPULATION

Estimated mid-year population of Hoddesdon Urban District

	16,770	(16,440)	
Natural increase or decrease			+ 142
Migration in or out			+ 188
Total increase or decrease			+ 330

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in Acres 4,423 no change

Number of Inhabited Domestic Premises according to Rate Books as at 1 April 1960

	5,288	(5,010)	
Number of Houses per Acre			1.19
Number of Persons per Acre			3.8
Number of Persons per house			3.17

Rateable Value of District £256,677

Sum Represented by a Penny Rate £1,095

VITAL STATISTICS

(TABLE 2)

(Figures for 1958 are shown in brackets)

<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	149 (144)	140 (140)	289 (184)
Illegitimate	4 (6)	8 (5)	12 (11)
Total Live Births	153 (150)	148 (145)	301 (295)
Live Birth Rate per 1000 population	17.95	(17.94)	
Area Comparability Factor for Births	0.98	(1.00)	
Standardised Live Birth Rate per 1000 population	17.59	(17.94)	
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total Live Births	3.98	(3.72)	

<u>STILL BIRTHS</u>					
Legitimate	3	(3)	1	(2)	4 (5)
Illegitimate	-	-	-	-	-
Total Still Births	3	(3)	1	(2)	4 (5)
Still Birth Rate per 1000 total live and Still births	13.11	(16.66)			

<u>TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS</u>					
Legitimate	152 (147)	149 (142)	293 (289)		
Illegitimate	4 (6)	8 (5)	12 (11)		
Total Live and Still Births	156 (153)	157 (147)	305 (300)		

<u>COMPARISON RATES</u>	<u>Hoddesdon</u> <u>Urban District</u>	<u>Hertford</u> <u>County</u>	<u>England</u> <u>& Wales</u>
Live Birth Rate	17.95	17.67	
Area Comparability Factor	0.98	0.92	
Standardised Birth Rate	17.59	16.26	16.5
Still Birth Rate	13.11	18.30	20.7

Vital Statistics
Table 2 Continued

INFANT DEATHS

	<u>Males</u>		<u>Females</u>		<u>Total</u>
Infants under one week. Total	6		2		8
Legitimate	6		2		8
Illegitimate	-		-		-
<hr/>					
Infants under four weeks, Total	6	(3)	3	(1)	9 (4)
Legitimate	6	(3)	3	(1)	9 (4)
Illegitimate	-	-	-	-	-
<hr/>					
Infants under one year. Total	6	(3)	3	(2)	9 (5)
Legitimate	6	(3)	3	(2)	9 (5)
Illegitimate	-	-	-	-	-
<hr/>					

INFANT MORTALITY RATES

Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 total live births.	Total	29.90	(16.94)
Legitimate infant deaths per 1000 legitimate live births	Total	31.14	(17.60)
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1000 illegitimate live births		-	-
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (death of infants under four weeks per 1000 total live births)		29.90	(13.55)
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths of infants under one week per 1000 total live births)		26.57	
Peri-Natal Mortality Rate (Still births and deaths of infants under one week combined) per 1000 total live and still births		39.86	

MATERNAL DEATHS

Maternal deaths, including abortion	-
Maternal mortality Rate per 1000 live and still births	-

DEATHS (Total)

Deaths of all ages	Males	83	(90)
	Females	76	(80)
	Total	159	(170)

Death Rate per 1000 population	9.84	{10.34}
Area Comparability Factor for Deaths	1.15	{ 1.11}
Standardised Death Rate per 1000 population	10.90	{11.48}

COMPARISON RATES

	<u>Hoddesdon</u> <u>Urban District</u>	<u>Hertford</u> <u>County</u>	<u>England</u> <u>& Wales</u>
Infant Mortality Rate	29.90	16.68	22.0
Legitimate	31.14		
Illegitimate	-		
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate	29.90	12.27	15.8
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate	26.57	10.83	
Perinatal Mortality Rate	39.86		
Maternal Mortality Rate	-	0.35	0.38
Death Rate	9.48	9.57	
Area Comparability Factor	1.15	1.09	
Standardised Death Rate	10.90	10.43	11.6

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Notifiable Disease (other than Tuberculosis) Notified during 1959

(TABLE 3)

Disease								
	Total	Under 1	1- 4	5- 14	15- 24	25- 64	Over 65	Age Unknown
Scarlet Fever	26	-	6	20	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	5	-	-	4	-	1	-	-
Measles	347	9	163	168	4	1	-	2
Pneumonia	10	-	3	4	-	2	1	-
Erysipelas	8	-	-	-	-	8	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	4	-	-	-	3	1	-	-
Dysentery	2	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Food poisoning	2	-	-	1	-	1	-	-

INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE DURING THE DIFFERENT MONTHS

(TABLE 4)

DISEASE	First Quarter			Second Quarter			Third Quarter			Fourth Quarter		
	Jan.	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Scarlet Fever	13	1	5	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	3
Measles	25	11	107	87	19	54	43	-	1	-	-	-
Erysipelas	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	1
Peurperal Pyrexia	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	1	2	4	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	4

TUBERCULOSIS during 1959

(TABLE 5)

<u>Tuberculosis</u> <u>New Cases Only</u>	Total all Ages	Under 5 Years	5 to 15	15 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64	65 and over	Age not known
Respiratory	8	-	-	1	1	3	3	-
Meninges and C.N.S.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

<u>Tuberculosis</u>		Total	Males		Females	
<u>All Cases</u>			P.	N.P.	P.	N.P.
Cases on Register at 1 January 1959		107	44	9	43	11
Cases Added to Register	New Cases	8	2	1	5	-
	Restored to Register	-	-	-	-	-
	Inward Transfers	6	2	-	3	1
Cases Removed from Register	Deaths	3	1	-	2	-
	Outward Transfers	1	1	-	-	-
	Patients Cured	1	-	-	-	-
	Other	2	1	-	-	1
Cases remaining on Register at 31.12.59.		114	45	10	49	10

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1959

<u>Line No.</u>		<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
	ALL CASES	93	76
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	0	1
2	Tuberculosis, other	0	0
3	Syphilitic disease	0	0
4	Diphtheria	0	0
5	Whooping Cough	0	0
6	Meningococcal infections	0	0
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0
8	Measles	0	0
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases.	0	0
10	Malignant Neoplasm, stomach.	1	1
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	10	1
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast.. .. .	0	3
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus.. .. .	0	1
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	7	9
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia.. .. .	0	1
16	Diabetes	0	0
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	7	15
18	Coronary disease, angina	19	10
19	Hypertension with heart disease.. .. .	2	1
20	Other heart diseases.	5	3
21	Other circulatory diseases.. .. .	4	5
22	Influenza	0	1
23	Pneumonia	1	1
24	Bronchitis	3	2
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	0	0
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	0
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	0	0
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	0	0
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	0	0
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.. .. .	0	0
31	Congenital malformations	1	0
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases.	16	20
33	Motor Vehicle accidents	1	0
34	All other accidents	3	1
35	Suicide	0	0
36	Homicide and operations of war	0	0
(a)	Still births.	3	1
(b)	Deaths of infants under four weeks of age	6	3
(c)	Deaths of infants four weeks to one year of age	0	0
(d)	Deaths of infants under 1 week of age.. .. .	6	2

General Statistics

The total increase in population since 1958 has been 330, this being made up of a natural increase in 142 and an inward migration of 188. The estimated mid-year population for 1959 was 16,770.

Vital Statistics

The live-births for 1959 were 301 as compared with 295 in 1958, while the still-births were 4 as compared with 5. The standardised birth rate and the still birth rate are much the same as those for the last year except that there is a reduction in the still-birth rate.

Of the 9 deaths of infants under 1 year of age, 8 occurred in infants under 1 week of age. Of these, 6 were due to prematurity.

During 1959 there were again no deaths attributable to pregnancy, childbirth or abortion.

The total deaths for all ages was 159, eleven less than those for 1958.

Causes of death

1959 has shown a further rise in deaths attributable to Coronary disease, the figures being 29 as compared with 24 in 1958. These, together with deaths due to other forms of Heart Disease make up 49 or 31% of the total number of deaths. Vascular lesions of the nervous system, commonly known as "Strokes" were responsible for 22 deaths. It must be borne in mind however, that the great majority of the deaths referred to above, did not occur in the younger but in the older age groups. Indeed 14 of the deaths due to Coronary Disease were in patients over the age of 65.

It is again disquieting to note that there were 11 deaths due to Carcinoma of the Lung or Bronchus, 10 of which occurred in men. In last year's report I commented upon the close association between smoking, especially cigarette smoking, and lung cancer and can only reiterate that if young people could be dissuaded from starting the cigarette habit there is little doubt that the national figures would show a gradual decline.

It is noteworthy that for 1 death due to a motor accident, there were 4 attributable to accidents in the home.

Longevity is a practice not unknown to the inhabitants of Hoddesdon. Out of the total of 159 deaths, no fewer than 40 persons, or 25% reached the age of 75 and over, and 5 were more than 90 when they died.

Infectious Diseases

Apart from the 347 cases of Measles already referred to in the preface, there is little to note apart from 26 cases of Scarlet Fever.

There were two isolated cases of Sonne Dysentery as well as two unrelated cases of food poisoning.

I am happy to report that no instance of poliomyelitis was notified during the year, while the protective vaccinations against this disease were increased both by the local doctors and the County Medical Staff.

Tuberculosis

Eight new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified.

Food Hygiene Regulations 1955-57

The rise in the incidence of Food Poisoning in England and Wales focusses increasing attention upon the importance of clean food. In December 1959 a report on this subject was made to the Public Health Committee and the outcome of this report will be referred to in the Annual Report for 1960.

Fortunately, as has been mentioned previously, there were only two isolated cases of food poisoning in the district in 1959. Many inspections of food premises were carried out by the Public Health Inspectors but once more no prosecutions were found to be required.

During the summer an extremely life-like presentation prepared by the Public Health staff of how food can be contaminated by the house fly from uncovered dustbins, was exhibited in a window in the High Street. Its verisimilitude, intended to have an impact of disgust on the viewer, attracted the attention of many passers by and it is hoped that the lesson it conveyed was driven home.

National Assistance Acts 1948-1951

No action was required under Section 47 of this Act.

Ionising Radiations

The public is today very cognisant of the hazards due to man-made radioactivity and this is one of the modern problems which engage the attention of a Local Authority.

During 1959 several reports on this subject were made to the Public Health Committee and in November - December I attended in London a week's course on Radiation Hazards organised by the Services Group of the Society of Medical Officers of Health. This course included visits to the Medical division of the Atomic Energy Research Establishment, Harwell, the Technological Irradiation Group Laboratories and the Agricultural Research Council Laboratories, Wantage.

The recent memorandum on Radioactivity issued by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government has done much to clarify the position regarding the respective responsibilities of Central and Local Government, placing these largely upon Central Government agencies. Furthermore, the passage of the Radioactive Substances Bill through Parliament should enable Medical Officers of Health to receive information regarding the

use and disposal of radioactive substances which it is now difficult to obtain except by the exercise of some ingenuity.

Workrooms for the Elderly

During 1959 a Committee, sponsored by the Hoddesdon Urban District Council, presided over by Councillor C.D.B. Williams, J.P., Chairman of the Council and representing a wide diversity of interests in the town, was formed to discuss and promote the project of setting up workrooms for the elderly.

The project was originally mooted by the Hoddesdon Rotary Club who, from their investigations, guaranteed that work for at least 6 old persons could be provided by a number of local factories and industries. The Scheme soon attracted wide attention and support, premises were kindly provided by the Church Institute Committee of St. Paul's Church for a nominal rental and it was decided to hold a public meeting early in 1960.

This admirable scheme, which is only one of a number which are operating successfully in the Kingdom, is designed to create an interest for old people outside their homes, to help to bring them together and by offering them a job of work to do to make them feel that they are still useful members of the community who have something of importance to contribute to the life of the town. The institution of workshops for the elderly thus becomes an important excursion into Geriatric Medicine by which it is hoped that the lives of the participants will be prolonged because of renewed interests.

It is hoped that the workshops will become operative in 1960.

Home Safety Committee

Hoddesdon has a very active Home Safety Committee which arranges for many Exhibitions, poster displays and lectures to be held.

A very successful Speakers' Training Day was held on 17th April 1959 with morning and afternoon sessions. The morning session was opened by the Chairman of the Council and at both sessions Mr. V. Bryant of the Home Safety Department of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents was the chief speaker.

Home Safety films were shown by the County Fire Headquarters at both sessions and Mrs. Bryant gave a demonstration on the flammability of materials.

An exhibition which drew much interest and attention had been prepared by two Health Visitors, Mrs. Tuscher and Miss Churchill. The exhibition was of such excellence that it was subsequently shown at many schools throughout the district. The Press gave a good coverage to the day's proceedings.

Road Accidents and measures to overcome the rising toll of the road are always in the news. What is generally forgotten is that Home Accidents always exceed Road Accidents and their incidence is also rising.

National figures for the last two years are as follows :-

	<u>1958</u>	<u>1959</u>
Road Accidents	5,451	5,924
Home Accidents	6,776	6,920

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR HODDESDON

LABORATORY SERVICE

Laboratory facilities are provided by the Public Health Laboratory Service at Cambridge.

In emergency, certain (Medical) specimens can be examined at the Laboratory of the Hertford County Hospital, Hertford.

COUNTY COUNCIL HEALTH SERVICES

The following County Council services under the National Health Service Act 1946, are available for Hoddesdon. Full details can be obtained from the County Medical Officer, County Hall, Hertford.

Home Nursing, Midwifery, Health Visiting and Welfare Centres

Number of Nurses: 5 Welfare Centres: 2

Vaccinations, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, and Polio Vaccinations

A Medical Officer at the Welfare Centres will vaccinate or immunise babies at the request of parents. Family Doctors will also provide this prophylaxis free of charge.

Home and Domestic Help

Applications for this Service should be addressed to the Local Organiser at 27, Bull Plain, Hertford (Telephone: HERTFORD 3232)

A charge may be made for this Service, in accordance with the County Council's assessment scale.

Care and After Care

Applications for recuperative holidays, if recommended by the

Medical Attendant, should be made to the County Medical Officer.

Equipment can be issued on loan to patients being nursed at home. A Medical Loan Depot has been established at the Council Offices.

A charge may be made for both the above Services.

Ambulance Service

There is an ambulance Station at Hoddesdon; Telephone HODDESDON 3021. Except in emergency an ambulance should be ordered by a Medical Practitioner.

Mental Health

Arrangements for mental treatment on the recommendation of a Medical Practitioner are made by the Duly Authorised Officer, Mr. J.H. Webster, Collet Road, Ware, Herts: (Telephone: WARE 541)

Help in respect of Mentally Defective persons can be obtained by application to the County Medical Officer.

An Occupation Centre for defective children has been established in Hertford.

HOSPITAL SERVICES

Hoddesdon is served chiefly by the Hertford County Hospital, Hertford.

Patients suffering from Infectious diseases are admitted to Honey Lane Hospital, Waltham Cross, or St. Ann's Hospital, Tottenham.

Chronic sick can receive hospital treatment at Western House Hospital, Collet Road, Ware.

Western House also provides beds under Part III of the National Assistance Act, 1948, on behalf of the Hertfordshire County Council.

GENERAL PRACTITIONER MEDICAL SERVICES

There are 12 doctors in Hoddesdon. Practitioners from adjoining areas also have some patients in Hoddesdon.

DENTAL SERVICE

There are now 5 dentists in Hoddesdon. There is also a School Dental Clinic at the Welfare Centre adjoining the Council Offices.

OTHER SERVICES

There is a Mortuary managed by the Council.

Blood Transfusion Donor Sessions are held at the Welfare Centre adjoining the Council Offices.

There is a very active Old People's Welfare Service comprising an Over 60's Club, Meals Service, Visiting Committee, and Chiropody Service.

A Citizens Advice Bureau holds sessions on Mondays 7.30 - 9 p.m. and Wednesdays 2.30 - 4 p.m., at the Public Library, High Street, Hoddesdon. The Bureau, which serves a wide area around Hoddesdon, possesses a Legal Advisor and a Marriage Guidance Counsellor.

HODDESDON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices,
Hoddesdon,
Herts.

1 June 1960

To the Chairman and Members
of the Public Health Committee

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

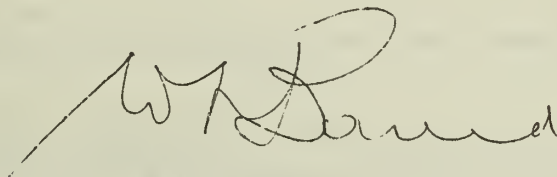
1959

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Dunton, and Gentlemen,

I submit for your consideration my Report for the year ended
31st December, 1959.

I should again like to record my appreciation of the support I
have received from the Chairman and Members of the Public Health
Committee and from Dr. G.M. Frizelle, Medical Officer of Health to the
East Herts Combined Districts.

My thanks are also due to the other Chief Officers of the
Council for their co-operation during the year and to my own staff for
their continued interest and loyal support at all times.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'W.N. David', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

W.N. DAVID
Chief Public Health Inspector

WATER SUPPLIES

PUBLIC MAINS SUPPLY

With the exception of a few houses in the outlying parts of the district, water is derived from the Metropolitan Water Board's mains. This supply was sampled with satisfactory results.

PRIVATE SUPPLIES

Thirty samples of domestic water supplies were taken during the year from 16 premises, 6 were found to be unsatisfactory or of doubtful quality. In 4 of these cases alternative supplies were available; in another, advice was given and the system modified to give a satisfactory supply. On the other premises after storage and filtration of raw river water failed to produce a really satisfactory supply, the owners informed me that they are now negotiating for connection to a mains supply.

During the year 3 premises have been connected to the main water supply.

FACTORY SUPPLIES

Fifteen bacteriological and two chemical samples were taken. Two of the supplies at first gave unsatisfactory results but after treatment and chlorination and overhaul of the systems satisfactory results from the samples submitted were obtained.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The greater part of the developed area of the district is sewered with outfalls at Broxbourne and Wormley which employ the broad irrigation, screening and settlement method, and at Hoddesdon where the sewage is treated at the Council's Rye Park Works.

The scheme to connect all the Public sewers to the Rye Meads sewage Disposal Works at Rye House, and thereby dispense with the existing treatment plants, is well under way and should be completed during 1960.

During the year four residential premises were connected to the Public Sewers and their existing arrangements, three cesspools and one septic tank, were abolished.

General improvements including the substitution of a septic tank and filtration for the existing inadequate cesspool were secured to a public house in the district.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Household refuse is collected weekly and special arrangements exist for a weekly collection of trade refuse. This part of the Council's work is supervised by the Engineer & Surveyor.

The refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping at the Lodge Hollow, Cock Lane, Hoddesdon, gravel pit privately owned and operated. The

tip is also used for the deposit of household refuse from the Borough of St. Pancras. Another tip in the district, at Church Lane, Wormley, is owned and operated by the Borough of Edmonton for the disposal of that part of the household refuse which has already been treated at their incineration works.

HOUSING ACTS 1936 - 1959

SLUM CLEARANCE

The following areas, comprising 19 houses, were inspected and represented during the year.

Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, Pleasant Place, Wormley
Nos. 16, 18, 20, 22, High Street, Hoddesdon
Nos. 26, 28, 30, Amwell Street, Hoddesdon
Nos. 155, 157, 159, 161, 163, High Road, Broxbourne

In addition to the foregoing, 5 other houses were inspected for representation in 1960.

The eight dwellings, Nos. 144, 146, 148, 150, 152, 154, High Road, Broxbourne, and Nos. 1 & 2 Bell Lane, Broxbourne, were represented during the year.

Confirmation of the Clearance Order on the following area was received.

Nos. 183, 185, 187, 189, 191, High Road, Broxbourne

The Council are negotiating purchase of the three areas comprising.

Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, Burford Terrace, Hoddesdon
Nos. 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, Westlea Road, Wormley
Nos. 2, & 4, Plumes Yard, Hoddesdon.

During the year some 48 persons from Slum Clearance dwellings were rehoused.

The following properties were demolished.

104, 106, 108, Amwell Street, Hoddesdon
4, 6, 8, Duke Street, Hoddesdon
3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, Pauls Lane, Hoddesdon
60a, 62a, Burford Street, Hoddesdon
38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, Amwell Street, Hoddesdon
14, 16, 18, Burford Street, Hoddesdon
North Lodge, Cock Lane, Hoddesdon
Timberwell Cottage, Cranbourne Drive, Hoddesdon

HOUSING ACT, 1957, SECTION 36 - HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS

Cranbourne House, Cranbourne Drive, Hoddesdon

Action was taken under this section in connection with this large dwelling house which had been divided into ten separate units of accommodation.

The owner was required to carry out works to provide each unit with separate facilities for preparation, storage and cooking of food, etc., or reduce the accommodation to such numbers that the existing facilities would satisfy this requirement. The notice was issued during December and gave until February 1960 for the owner to remedy this matter.

Italian Immigrants

The number of Italians living in the district increased during the year. It is now estimated to be over 300 excluding children. There are some 30 houses in the district owned by Italians. In addition to the normal occupants it seems that new arrivals tend to use some of these houses until they have made their own separate arrangements. Several of these families have been visited and the legal requirements explained to them. It is hoped that any statutory overcrowding will thus be prevented.

IMPROVEMENT OF HOUSING ACCOMMODATION

The introduction of the House Purchase and Housing Act 1959, extended the principle of grants, to include dwellings lacking certain specified amenities. Under the Act a maximum of £155 is payable for providing these standard amenities and the payment is known as a "Standard Grant."

Improvement grants (or "discretionary grants" as they are now known) are still in force and are applicable where more extensive improvement to property is required. These new measures have resulted in the number of improvement grant applications being increased.

Nine discretionary grant applications and 7 standard grant applications were approved during the year.

Dame Letitia Monson's Almshouses, Broxbourne

An application by the Trustees for a grant towards the cost of conversion and improvement of these Almshouses was approved by the Ministry under Section 121 of the Housing Act 1957. The work of converting the premises into 6 modern flats with a Matron's quarters was well advanced at the end of the year.

Progress Made with Housing Improvement

The following tables give details of the progress made and the amount of grants paid since 1955.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	Total
Applications approved	12	9	24	4	9	58
Number completed	3	11	10	4	19	47
Grants paid	£515	£1,701	£2,870	£2,724	£1,237	£9,117
Approvals not proceeded with	-	2	3	-	-	5

STANDARD GRANTS

Applications approved	-	-	-	-	7	7
Number completed	-	-	-	-	1	1
Grants paid (to 31.12.59)	-	-	-	-	£115	£115

HOUSING PROGRESS

	<u>During 1959</u>	<u>Total since end of the war</u>
<u>By Private Enterprise</u>		
New dwellings erected	132	974
War destroyed dwellings rebuilt	-	5
Repairs of war damaged houses	-	-
Conversions or adaptations in terms of family units	-	23
<u>By Local Authority</u>		
New dwellings erected	73	826
Conversions or adaptations in terms of family units	-	8
Temporary prefabricated bungalows	-	38

By Other Authorities
(including Police Cottages, etc.)

During
1959

Total since end
of the war

New dwellings erected

-

10

Properties controlled by the Local Authority
at 31st December, 1959

Council Houses

1,176

Temporary prefabricated bungalows

38

Sundry other properties

13

Shops

4

Sale of Council houses

No Council houses were sold during the year. The total remains at 18.

INSPECTIONS ETC.

The following visits for inspection or re-inspection under the various Acts have been made.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936

Dwelling houses (Section 92 Nuisances)	292
Keeping of animals	2
Offensive accumulations	24
Dust and effluvia	23
Workplaces	2
Ditches and watercourses	16
Tents, vans and sheds	11
Drains and sewers	362
Closets	15
Dustbins	47
Inns, restaurants and cinemas etc.	26
Verminous premises	4
Infectious diseases	42
Food poisoning	14
Water supply	127
Swimming pool	48
Dangerous structures	1
Home Safety	34

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ACT 1935

Refuse tips	15
Music and dancing licensing	3
Moveable dwellings	142

CLEAN AIR ACT 1956

Industrial premises	11
Domestic premises	3
Miscellaneous	31

HOUSING ACTS

Individual unfit	15
Clearance	290
Overcrowding	11
Other	47
Underground rooms	2
Houses let in lodgings	3
Houses in multi-occupation	31
Improvement grants	269
Rent act	13

FACTORIES ACT

Power	32
Non-power	2
Building sites	14
Outworkers	1

AGRICULTURE (SAFETY, HEALTH & WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT 1956

5

PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACT 1928

88

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955

Hygiene Regulations/Byelaws - Shops	165
" " " - Stalls and vehicles	169
" " " - Personal Hygiene	125
Ice Cream Premises	26
Milk distribution	19
Food inspection - meat	62
" " - other	33
Sampling	23
Slaughterhouses	1

SHOPS ACT 1950

Section 38	10
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PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949

Rodents - Domestic premises	1,096
" - Business premises	106
" - Farms	25
" - Sewers	1
Insects	34
Miscellaneous	174
Interviews with Owners, Agents, Builders etc.	84

PUBLIC HEALTH

ANTI-FLY CAMPAIGN

During August the department used the windows of premises in the High Street to show to the Public the need for reducing the fly population down to a minimum. By following the greatly magnified trail of a large model fly the display showed first, the fly's excursion to an

overflowing dustbin and then its progress over a table laid ready for a meal. A background was formed of posters directing attention to suitable preventative measures which should be taken. It is difficult to estimate the degree of success of propaganda of this nature but the display appeared to attract a great deal of attention and whether it shocked individuals or not it is thought it must have made many people conscious of the danger of infection from this menace.

VERMINOUS PREMISES

Two bed-bug infestations were treated during the year. Vermin were found to be present in all the bedrooms in each case. Fumigation of the first floor rooms was carried out.

NUISANCES

Together with the normal complaints received by the Department were two complaints not usually associated with an Urban district. One was a complaint from neighbours concerning the keeping of a pet lamb in the back garden of a dwelling on a Housing Estate. The owners agreed to the removal of this pet and the cleaning up of the offending accumulations. The second complaint was of an offensive smell. This was made by residents on a new Housing Estate who stated that the smell had persisted for a few days and then had stopped, only to return a day later. Adjoining the estate extensive land drainage works were being carried out to the playing fields of a new school. It was found that the smell originated from the heaps of soil disturbed in the land drainage operations, and that a change in the wind direction had caused the complainants to think that the smell had stopped and then returned.

WATER CRESS BEDS

Water samples taken from watercress beds in this district during May 1959 showed faecal contamination. The water cress was taken to an adjoining district for preparation, packing and distribution; some of it was being returned to this district for retail sale. The responsible persons were informed of the necessary treatment to the watercress before sale.

SWIMMING POOL

The "Spinning Wheel" Swimming Pool in Hoddesdon which is owned by the Council and administered by the Engineer & Surveyor was opened again from 10 May to 30 September.

Water is supplied to the pool from the public mains. The water is treated by pressure filtration and "break point" chlorination and is heated if required. The flow is so regulated that all the water passes through the plant every 5 hours.

Routine residual chlorine tests are made at the pool and weekly samples are of bacteriological examination at the Public Health Laboratory at Cambridge. All the tests showed the water to be of a satisfactory degree of purity.

There were 60,000 admissions to the pool during 1959.

CLEAN AIR

One application was received for "prior approval" and satisfactory chimney height in connection with the installation of two packaged automatic steam oil-fired boilers at a new factory in course of construction within the district. The application was approved.

MEASUREMENT AND RECORDING OF POLLUTION

Recordings from the smoke filter and volumetric sulphur dioxide apparatus stationed at the rear of the Council Offices were taken during the year. I am indebted to the Hornchurch U.D.C. Public Health Department for assessing the filter stains with their reflectometer. The average monthly readings are given in the table below.

Month	Concentration of smoke in mg. per cu.m.of air	Concentration of sulphur dioxide in volumes per 100 million volumes of air.
January	13.0	2.9
February	12.0	4.5
March	7.0	2.0
April	4.0	1.7
May	2.0	1.6
June	2.0	1.5
July	2.0	1.8
August	2.0	1.4
September	3.0	1.5
October	5.0	1.9
November	12.0	1.5
December	9.0	1.7

The existing two stations, each consisting of a deposit gauge collecting soot, ash, grit etc. and a lead peroxide instrument for measuring sulphur, continued to function. Details of the readings taken during the year are given in the following table.

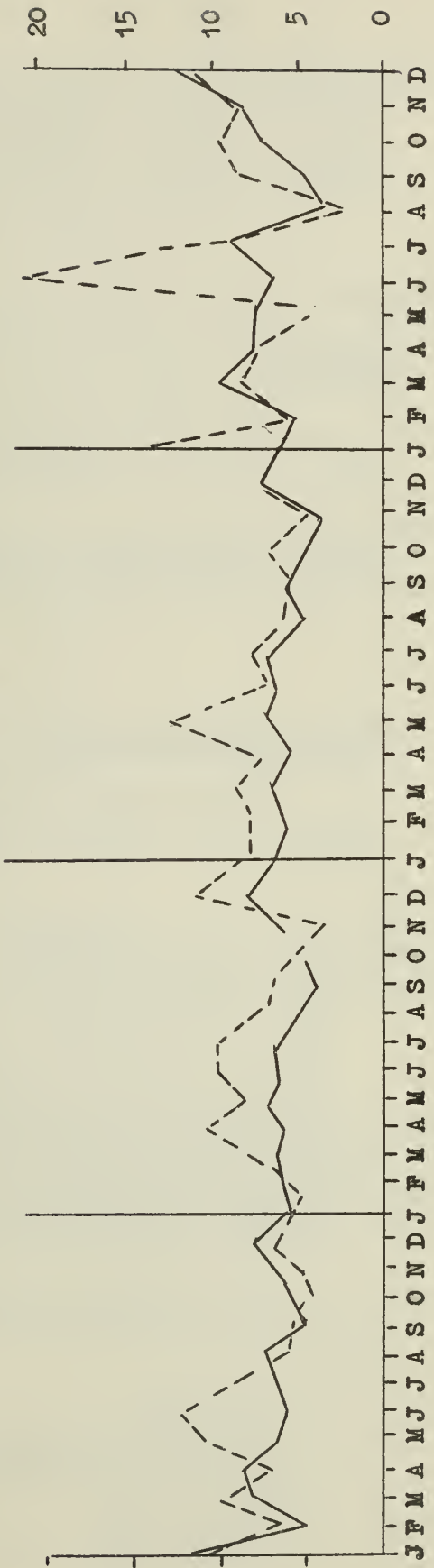
Month	Rainfall in.	Insoluble Deposit	Soluble Deposit	Total Solids	SO ₃ m.g/day/100 cm. of Batch A.
Tons per square mile					
<u>Station No.1</u>					
<u>Council Offices, High Street, Hoddesdon</u>					
January	1.78	3.19	1.95	5.14	2.03
February	0.08	2.38	3.19	5.57	2.22
March	1.74	5.50	4.26	9.76	1.39
April	2.22	3.62	4.03	7.65	1.04
May	0.96	3.12	4.43	7.55	0.49
June	0.69	3.56	2.52	6.08	0.41
July	1.56	5.81	3.12	8.93	0.43
August	0.34	1.51	1.64	3.15	0.49
September	0.01	3.39	1.51	4.90	0.52
October	1.54	3.82	3.19	7.01	1.45
November	2.27	3.59	4.56	8.15	1.93
December	3.28	3.86	8.69	12.55	1.91
<u>Station No.2</u>					
<u>New River Close, Hoddesdon</u>					
January	1.97	8.66	4.48	13.14	1.40
February	0.09	3.52	2.14	5.66	1.43
March	1.72	4.81	4.02	8.83	0.93
April	2.52	4.58	3.09	7.67	1.07
May	0.83	2.80	1.28	4.08	0.20
June	1.58	12.78	8.16	20.94	0.45
July	1.99	7.51	3.23	10.74	0.44
August	0.47	1.55	0.85	2.40	0.47
September	0.09	7.25	1.54	8.79	0.46
October	1.66	5.43	4.08	9.51	1.33
November	2.13	3.33	4.94	8.27	1.35
December	3.26	4.28	6.75	11.03	1.11

The graph on Page 11 gives a comparison of the readings for 1959 with those of the previous years.

Station No.1
Station No.2

ESTIMATION OF SULPHUR BY LEAD PEROXIDE METHOD

mg. per day per 100 cm.



1956 1957 1958 1959

MILK AND DAIRIES

Number of Dairies registered	20
Number of persons holding dealers licences	20
Number of Dealers licensed to sell Tuberculin Tested milk	11
Number of Dealers licensed to sell Pasteurized milk	12
Number of Dealers from other districts licensed to sell milk in the district (supplementary licences)	3

There are no pasteurizing or bottling plants in the district.

Sampling

Six milk samples were taken from dealers in the district during the year. Results showed that all the samples complied with the Special Designations Regulations.

Four samples were taken from producers in the district by the County Council sampling officers and examined biologically for Bacillus Tuberculosis and Brucella Abortus. All proved to be negative.

FOOD AND DRUGS

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS

Further inspection of food premises in accordance with the Regulations were made during the year to the extent indicated in the table on Page 7 and the following improvements were effected -

<u>Improvement</u>	<u>Number</u>
Provision of new sinks or replacements	6
Repair or alterations to drainage system	5
Internal cleansing or redecoration to walls etc.	9
Improved sanitary accommodation	5
Installation of wash hand basins	3
Installation of hot water supply	2
Improving internal surfaces, walls, etc.	8
Provision of lockers	2
Improved lighting or ventilation	3
Improved storage facilities	3

The approximate numbers of different types of food premises are given below.

Bakehouses	6
Bakery and confectionery shops	8
Restaurants and refreshment rooms	18
Public houses	25
Sweet shops	28
Grocery shops	48

Greengrocer shops	14	
Butchers shops	14	
Fishmongers shops	5	(3 shops sell both
Fried fish shops	3	wet and fried fish)
Factory canteens	14	
School canteens	12	
Miscellaneous food premises	5	

SECTION 16 FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

There are 18 premises registered for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pickled or preserved food and there are 59 premises registered for the sale, or storage for sale, of ice cream. There are no premises registered for the manufacture of ice cream.

Spot checks have been made to ascertain that ice cream at these premises is stored at the proper temperature.

The ice cream vehicles operating in the district were inspected. The refrigeration plant of one was found to be below the required standard. The vehicle was withdrawn from service until the matter had been rectified.

Sampling

Nine ice cream samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service for bacteriological examination and grading. All samples were placed in Grade I.

MARKET

As in previous years, regular inspection of the market stalls was maintained and attention directed to the prevention of contamination of foodstuffs and the enforcement of the Council's Byelaws concerning the sale of food in the open air.

UNSOUND FOOD

Food surrendered as being unfit for human consumption is listed below. Most of the canned food was rejected because of decomposition or damage to the containers. Except in the case of carcase meat and offal encountered in the course of inspection at the slaughterhouse, food was surrendered by retailers.

Disposal of unsound food is by deep burial at the controlled tip in Cock Lane, Hoddesdon.

Canned Foodstuffs

	cwt.	lbs.
Ham		54 $\frac{1}{4}$
Pork		37
Jellied Veal		30
Corned beef		24
Grapefruit		18
Luncheon meat		12
Pineapple		9 $\frac{3}{4}$
Prawns		7
Strawberries		6
Miscellaneous		10 $\frac{1}{4}$
	1.	196 $\frac{1}{4}$

Fresh Meat

Bovine lungs	6
Bovine heart	4
Bovine liver	13
Porcine heads	42
Ovine liver	5
Chine of lamb	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
	81 $\frac{1}{2}$

Other Foods

Frozen spleens	28
Frozen skin beef	43
Frozen kidney	18
Frozen livers	15
	104

Total weight of all foodstuffs 3 cwt. 50 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.

SLAUGHTERHOUSE

The only slaughterhouse in the district which has been in use since the end of the last war, ceased to be used after 30th June 1959. The owner had agreed that it was not capable of being brought up to the standard required by the new regulations.

Details of carcasses inspected during the half year are given below.

Carcasses & Offal Inspected and Condemned in Whole or in Part

	Cattle Ex. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	74	-	-	250	136	-
Number inspected	74	-	-	250	136	-
<u>All Diseases Except Tuberculosis & Cysticercosis</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	3	-	-	5	-	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis & cysticer	4.05	-	-	2.0	-	-
<u>Tuberculosis Only</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	4	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis only	-	-	-	-	2.94	-
<u>Cysticercosis Only</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with cysticercosis	-	-	-	-	-	-

Three persons were licensed to act as slaughtermen under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1920.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949

Private dwellings

160 complaints of infestation were received and the premises inspected, and advice and treatment given free of charge.

Business Premises

Four contracts for treatment of business premises were in operation during the year and eighteen premises were treated and charged for on a time and material basis.

Agricultural Properties

The agricultural properties were surveyed periodically, and treatments carried out where necessary, charged on a time and material basis.

Sewers

Test baiting of the Councils' three sewerage systems was carried out with the following results -

	<u>Hoddesdon & Rye Park</u>	<u>Broxbourne</u>	<u>Wormley</u>
Total No. of sewer manholes (approx.)	350	230	105
No. of manholes test baited	38	15	7
No. of manholes showing takes	6	-	-

Treatment was carried out as follows:

January 1959

No. of manholes baited	18	-	-
No. of manholes showing takes	1	-	-

October 1959

No. of manholes baited	20	-	-
No. of manholes showing takes	6	-	-

Summary

Details of inspections made, infestation recorded and treatments carried out during the year, are given in the table below.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				Total
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Business Premises	Agricultural	
1. No. of Properties inspected as a result of:					
(a) Notification	8	95	16	4	123
(b) Survey under the Act	16	183	26	8	233
(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited for some other purpose)	10	486	8	1	505
	34	764	50	13	861

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	Authority	Dwelling Houses	Business Premises	Agricultural	Total
2. Total inspections carried out including reinspections	45	1,064	97	25	1,211
3. No. of properties inspected which were found to be infested by -					
(a) Rats	Major:	-	-	-	-
	Minor:	7	83	12	4
					106
(b) Mice	Major:	-	-	-	-
	Minor:	2	14	6	-
					22
		9	97	18	4
					128
4. No. of infested properties treated by the Local Authority	9	97	18	4	128
5. Total treatments carried out including reinspections	11	113	26	4	164

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ACT, 1935

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Consent was given during the year to the placing of eleven caravans on various sites in the Urban District. In each case the consent was for a period of twelve months.

Dobbs Weir Caravan Camp, Charlton Meadow, Dobbs Weir

Consent exists in respect of 100 dwellings at this Camp until 1960. The Camp continues to be well managed and has its own water supply (from a bore) which was found to be of satisfactory quality after bacteriological examination.

PET ANIMALS ACT 1951

Two pet shops and a pet stall are licenced under the provisions of the Act and continue to be operated satisfactorily.

GAME ACT 1831

Four persons were licensed to deal in game.

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 to 1959

Prescribed particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act 1937

Part 1 of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which S.1, 2,3,4, & 6, are to be enforced by Local Authorities	5	2	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) which S.7 is enforced by the Local Authority	97	32	5	-
(iii) Other premises in which S.7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out- workers premises)	18	14	3	-
TOTAL	120	48	8	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found			Number of cases in which pro- secutions were instituted	
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were insti- tuted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	3	3	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	8	8	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not incl- uding offences re- lating to Outworkers)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	11	11	-	1	-

Part VIII of the Act

Outwork

(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of Outworkers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c)	No. of Cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of Prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in un-wholesome premises	Notices Served	Prosecutions
Paper bags	23	-	-	-	-	-
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper	8	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	31	-	-	-	-	-

